

The last meeting of 2018 will be our Christmas lecture on **Monday 4th December**, it starts at **8 pm**

sharp in our usual venue of **Ballyclare High School Lecture Theatre**

[Directions can be found here.](#)



It gives me great pleasure to welcome a new speaker to the society, **Dr. Sophie Murray** from **Trinity College Dublin**

will be traveling up to give us a talk titled

'Space Weather Forecasting - Bring Astrophysics Down To Earth'.

About the talk: Space weather describes the dynamic conditions in Earth's outer space environment in the same way that weather refers to conditions in Earth's lower atmosphere. Whilst everyday space weather will not be noticeable to most people, a severe space weather event can significantly impact a multitude of vital ground- and space- based technologies and infrastructure on which we depend as part of our daily lives. This talk will explore the origins of space weather at our Sun, potential impacts on Earth, and the steps we are taking to mitigate severe events.

About Sophie: Sophie Murray is a solar physicist with over ten years experience in the field of space weather research and forecasting. Her research interests range from solar active regions and eruptions to the impact of space weather on the Earth's upper atmosphere. After completing a PhD in solar physics at Trinity College Dublin, Sophie worked as a Space Weather Research Scientist at the Met Office, the UK's national meteorological service. Collaborating with scientists, forecasters, policy makers, and end users, she transitioned basic science to operational space weather forecasting products. Now a Research Fellow at Trinity College Dublin, Sophie is currently investigating the solar source of eruptive events in order to better predict them.

This promises to be a great lecture to finish off the year and as it's getting closer to

Christmas we will have the customary mince pies and biscuits along with our free refreshments after the talk. Don't miss it!

Please note: Under 16's are very welcome but due to our child protection policy, we ask that they are accompanied by an adult.

As always the talk is free, a donation bucket is available at the door if you wish to support us in our work!

Hope to see you all there!